

## Lauro lactam capacity expansion successful Evonik puts first phase of expansion into operation

December 21, 2010

Essen, Germany-based Evonik Industries has succeeded in implementing the expansion of its lauro lactam capacity in Marl, as had been announced for the fourth quarter in May 2010. Lauro lactam is the starting material for polyamide 12, which the Group markets as a construction material and as a powder: VESTAMID® and VESTOSINT®, respectively.

**Dr. Ursula Keil**  
Marketing Support High  
Performance Polymers  
Phone +49 2365 49-9878  
Fax +49 2365 49-809878  
ursula.keil@evonik.com

To ease the supply situation of polyamide 12-based molding compounds Evonik will further increase its lauro lactam capacity as has been announced in November. In so doing, Evonik is strengthening its leading global market position in polyamide 12 and, as a reliable partner, is offering its customers supply security, both now and in the future.

Beginning with butadiene, Evonik produces lauro lactam in a multi-step process and then polymerizes and compounds it to yield an extensive range of polyamide 12 products precisely customized to the requirements of processors and end users. Thanks to its properties, VESTAMID® applications run the gamut from sophisticated line systems for motor vehicles, through large-volume pipes used in crude oil production, wire insulation in the cable industry, and catheters in medical technology, to precision injection-molded parts such as pump impellers and control-valve housings in machine and equipment manufacture. VESTOSINT® is used to coat metal parts and wire products such as dishwasher racks.

### About Evonik

Evonik Industries is the creative industrial group from Germany. In our core business of specialty chemicals, we are a global leader. In addition, Evonik is an expert in power generation from hard coal and renewable energies, and one of the largest private residential real estate companies in Germany. Our company's performance is shaped by creativity, specialization, continuous self-renewal, and reliability.

Evonik is active in over 100 countries around the world. In its fiscal year 2009 about 39,000 employees generated sales of about €13.1 billion and an operating profit (EBITDA) of about €2.0 billion.

**Evonik Degussa GmbH**  
High Performance Polymers  
45764 Marl  
Germany  
www.evonik.com

**Supervisory Board**  
Dr. Klaus Engel, Chairman

**Board of Management**  
Patrik Wohlhauser, Chairman  
Dr. Thomas Haeberle, Thomas Wessel

Registered Office is Essen  
Register Court  
Essen Local Court  
Commercial Registry B 20227

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High Performance Polymers  
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